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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Germany (Russian Zone)

SUBJECT The Carbon Disulphide Industry 07

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1. There are four carbon disulphide production plants in the Russian Zone of Germany. The plants went through various stages of dismantling and reconstruction, and are now all able to produce limited amounts of carbon disulphide. They are all working with severe handicaps because of the lack of retorts which are produced in Gelsenkirchen/Ruhr. Various unsuccessful attempts have been made to cast retorts in the Soviet Zone. New attempts are now being made to cast steel retorts at Hennigsdorf or in Riesa, despite the fact that it will still be difficult to obtain the necessary fittings. Negotiations are under way for the purchase of suitable retorts in Czechoslovakia.
2. The plants are all experiencing difficulties with the raw material supplies. The plants were set up to use good quality retort beechwood charcoal, or excellent quality kiln charcoal. There is practically no beechwood charcoal available in the Soviet Zone of Germany, and very little indigenous kiln charcoal. There have been sporadic shipments of charcoal from Czechoslovakia. The plants have had to convert for the most part to the use of distillation coke. There should be an adequate supply of lump sulphur available from the hydrogenation and distillation plants in the Russian Zone, but these are almost exclusively Soviet AGs, and very little of the sulphur is released for carbon disulphide production.
3. Ninety percent of the carbon disulphide production is allocated to the production of viscose synthetic fabrics. The rest is divided between the production of carbon tetrachloride and solvents.
- 25X1A9A 4. The four plants are given as follows:
 - a. Landeseigenes Werk Ammendorf, formerly Chem. Fabrik Julius Jacob. The original production capacity was about 1,000 tons of carbon disulphide a month. The present capacity is about 500 to 600 tons a month; however, difficulties in procuring raw materials reduce the average monthly production to 450 tons.

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Zellwolle A.G. The original production capacity of this plant was about 1,600 tons of carbon disulphide a month. The plant was not dismantled, and has operated at a rate of as much as 1,200 tons a month; however, the present need of repairs and irregularity of raw material delivery has reduced its production average to 500 tons a month.

- c. VVB Kunstfaser, Wittenberge (Y 69), formerly Kurmärkische Zellwolle und Cellulose A.G. The original capacity was 750 tons of carbon disulphide a month. The plant had already been converted to the use of distillation coke at some previous time. Its present average production is 200 tons a month.
- d. VVB Kunstfaser, Premnitz/Westhavelland, formerly I.G. Farbenindustrie, Kunstseidenfabrik. The plant was completely dismantled. A certain amount of reconstruction has been permitted; at the present time the production capacity of the plant is about 90 tons of carbon disulphide a month. Capacity production is maintained.

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